(c) Intermittent firing continued on the India-Bangladesh border in Meghalaya and Assam during border clashes between 15 to 19 April, 2001.

(d) The BSF have been put on high alert all along the India-Bangladesh border and the field formations are being strengthened and further equipped with better communication systems.

(e) Two India-Bangladesh Joint Boundary Working Groups (JBWGs) have been constituted on June 13, 2001. The first JBWG will deal with the undemarcated land of the India-Bangladesh land Boundary measuring 6.5 kms. The second JBWG will deal with the exchange of encalves and adversely possessed territories. The first meeting of the JBWGs has taken place on July 2-4, 2001 at Dhaka, Bangladesh. In these meetings both sides reiterated their commitments to maintaining *status quo*, peace and tranquility on the border.

Inquiry into killings of Indian Soldiers in Bangladesh Border

3231. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bangladesh has ordered any inquiry into the most brutal, cold blooded murder of our soldiers recently in their territory;

(b) if so, what are its findings;

(c) whether any of the perpetrators of this heinous crime has been punished; and

(d) if not, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In the face of unprovoked and unwarranted intrusion by the Bangladesh Rifles forces into the village of Pyrdiwah in the East Khasi Hills district, Meghalaya and brutal and inhuman killing of 16 Border Security Force personnel in Boraibari along the India-Bangladesh border in April 2001, the Government of Bangladesh had informed the Government of India that a full investigation would be carried out keeping in view all aspects of the incident. The Government of India is yet to hear from the Government of Bangladesh on the findings/progress of the inquiry.